Filling up of Posts for SCs/STs in public Sector Undertakings

5518. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether posts reserved for SC/ST candidates are not filled up in majority of the public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a number of such posts are being filled up by deserving them: and

(d) if so, the steps taken to fill up the reserved quota for SCs/STs in these undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (d). On the basis of information furnished by 139 Public Sector Undertakings, 12149 vacancies have been identified for being filled up by SC/ST candidates. Various steps have been taken to fill up these posts by Public Sector Undertakings. A special Recruitment Drive had been launched during 1991 for filling up these reserved vacancies by Public Sector Undertakings. Relaxation in age limit, confession in examination fee, incentive of travelling expenses for attending interviews pre-recruitment training, relaxation in standard and experience, separate sitting for interview for SC/ST candidates etc. are available for selection in Public Sector Undertakings. Dereservation of vacancies in direct recruitment has been banned in Public Sector Undertakings as in Government Departments.

[*Translation*]

National Policy on Edible Oils

5519. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a national policy on edible oils; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Union Governments propose to encourage farmers for increasing the production of edible oils; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Government has formulated an integrated policy on oilseeds/edible oils covering the aspects relating to the production, processing, modernisation of industry, import/export, distribution etc. with the basic objective of achieving self-reliance in edible oils.

(b) and (c). Government has taken a number of measures to encourage farmers for increasing the production of oilseeds/edible oils.

A statement in this regard is attached.

STATEMENT

Steps taken by the Govt. Encourage farmers for increasing the production of edible oils

1. Two centrally sponsored schemes namely National Oilseeds Development Projects (NDDP) and Oilseeds Production Thrust Proj-

ects (OPTP) which were operating till 1989-90 have been merged during 1990-91 into a single scheme namely Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) This schema provides essential assistance to the States for production and distribution of quality seeds, plant protection measures including supply of plant protection chemicals and equipments and organising demonstration of advanced technology, with particular reference to mustard, groundnut, soyabean and sunflower.

2. Supporting oilseeds projects of the NDDB.

3. A Technology Mission on Oilseeds was established in May, 1986 for harnessing the best of production, processing and management technologies.

4. Intensification of research efforts for increasing the production of oilseeds.

5. Increasing the areas under non-traditional oilseeds crops like soyabeen and sunflower and exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, rice bran etc

6. Setting up of necessary processing and infrastructural facilities to keep pace with the production programme of oilseeds.

7. Assistance for oil palm development.

8. Better incentive to producers through fixation of minimum support prices of major oilseeds.

9. Identification of equipments for modernisation of processing units. custom duty concession on imports of certain equipments.

10. Funding research and development programmes undertaken by various Institutions for fuller exploitation of oil from oil bearing materials.

[*English*]

Prices of Essential Commodities

5520. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Proxy' farmers have been partially responsible for the spurt in the prices of Essential Commodities as reported in Hindustan Times dated January 7, 1992:

(b) if so, the details thereof: and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). The supply of essential commodities in the open market has been hampered by various factors including the reported retention of these commodities by the farmers in larger quantity than their requirements. Such an activity creates inbalance in the normal demand and supply management This Ministry has not received any specific reports regarding the hoarding of essential commodities by 'Proxy Farmers' However, the Government is committed to control the prices of essential commodities within reasonable limits. Stringent action is being taken under Essential Commodities Act and other